

Working with rescues most of my life to even working on a farm I am saying to **vote NO on bill HB 5263.**

Rabbits are the third most common household pet after dogs and cats. I know I had several growing up. Due to public pressure, Petco and PetSmart stopped selling rabbits. They now only display rescue rabbits for adoption, same as they do for dogs and cats.

Whole Foods and other speciality stores stopped selling rabbit meat after concluding there was no market for sales.

The multi billion dollar cosmetic industry has been moving away from using rabbits and other animals in their testing programs due to consumer pressure. This is world wide. And with my generation and those younger it is an extremely important point. It is a big decision maker on what we buy, who we support politically and where we want to live.

While the rest of the country has recognized and elevated rabbits as pets, CT is taking a step backward in proposing this initiative.

From a CT business owner and resident, who is seeing negative changes in her state and this would just set that in cement giving me and my husband (also a CT business owner) another reason to leave Connecticut.

Regards,

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